Makerere University ResilientAfrica Network (RAN's) Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program launched

Today, Friday March 14th 2014, ResilientAfrica Network (RAN) is holding an Innovations Exhibition in the Makerere University Main Campus Main Hall. This is an opportunity for the faculty, students, private sector, Government, NGOs and the community at large to showcase their prototypes or projects that can be considered and selected for pre-consideration towards building /strengthening resilience in African communities.

This exhibition is one of the opportunities through which RAN will identify promising innovations to benefit from the Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program. Other benefits include: Technical support from a competent research team, linkages to local regional and international expertise and financial support to develop and pilot the solution or approach towards scaling.

The Makerere University Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe will officially launch the RAN Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program. *"It is such programs like ResilientAfrica Network (RAN) that have enormously contributed to Makerere University's great achievements including being 4th best University in the whole of Africa. Faculty, students and the community benefit a lot from such initiatives."*

RAN is proudly led by Makerere University (School of Public Health) as one of the seven development labs within the USAID-funded Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN). It is a partnership of 20 African Universities in 16 countries focused on strengthening the capacities of vulnerable communities to withstand natural and man-made shocks and stresses. One of the core objectives of RAN, is to strengthen resilience at the individual, household, and community levels to natural, man-made stresses and shocks through innovative technologies and approaches to development, which will be identified, incubated, tested, scaled and evaluated through the RAN in collaboration with its partners http://www.ranlab.org.

RAN carries out its operations within four Resilience Innovation labs. These are: The Eastern Africa RILab, Horn of Africa RILab, Southern African RILab and West Africa RILab. The Eastern Africa RILab is located in Makerere University School of Public Health with a mandate to source innovative ideas in line with RAN's thematic focus from within the academic community and support their incubation, areas of development and piloting.

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